



Annual Report

The Baltic University Programme



**Internationalization in
practice 2019**



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET



**The Baltic University
Programme**



Who we are

Being innovative by its nature, the Baltic University Programme (BUP) strives since its foundation in 1991 to find novel ways of interaction and cooperation among universities by promoting openness, internationalization and mobility.

Our aim

The main aim is to support building strong regional educational and research communities. The Baltic University Programme is committed to gain and disseminate knowledge in the fields of sustainable development, environmental protection, nature resources, democracy and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). This is achieved by developing and offering university courses, conferences, support multi- and interdisciplinary research co-operations, and by participation in transdisciplinary projects.





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The Baltic University Programme in 2019 -internationalization in practice

By Madeleine, Granvik, Director of The Baltic University Programme

Welcome to one of the biggest academic networks in the world - the Baltic University Programme (BUP)! The Programme has for 28 years been active in the drainage area of the Baltic Sea Region - promoting openness, internationalization, mobility and cooperation among universities in the region.

The main aim is to support building strong regional educational and research communities. Since the start BUP has gathered over two hundred universities in the region and eased cooperation and friendships between students, researchers and academic teachers.

Since the Programme has existed since 1991, it is not surprising that a generation shift has happened, entailing a lot of new ideas and efforts. We have therefore added new types of activities to our agenda during 2019 and have planned for new ways of working and supporting our Member Universities. First and foremost, during 2019 we started to plan the BUP symposium, but also started to develop a PhD supervisor collegium, students' roles at member universities "Student Ambassadeurs" and started to develop new course modules and course literature.

In spring 2019 the project Internationalization in practice started (Swedish Institute granted), with the aim to familiarize international offices at universities in Sweden, Ukraine and Belarus with each other. During the summer of 2019, the BUP arranged an extraordinary amount of activities targeted at students. We are happy to share an exposition on some of them in this Annual Report. Our events held in 2019 targeted other groups as well: reserchers, academic teachers and PhD students, also reported in this Annual Report. In the end of the year, the project targeted at developing new course material on climate change was initiated.

During a BUP year, two defferent BUP National Centres take turn in a presidency period, paving the way for more direct opportunities to influence the BUP arrangements. In 2019, the two presidency countries, Estonia and Russia, each planned and organized interesting events. January to June, Estonia contributed with several activities with the professional and kind involvement of Prof. Tatjana Polajeva, Centre Director for the Estonian BUP National Centre, hosted by Euroacademia. During the Russian presidency from July until December, the first BUP International Sea Yawl Voyage took place in the Curoonian Spit, and in October, a BUP conference as a part of the Maritime Forum was held in Kaliningrad. The arrangements were real-

ized with the help and kind involvement of Pavel Kovalishin, Centre Director in Russia, hosted by the Kaliningrad State Technical University, Baltic Fishing Fleet State Academy.

During the year 2019, we introduced two new BUP Themes, as a development from discussions with colleagues: Sustainable Tourism and Sustainable Societies. The aim with each theme is to make them into an information resource where BUP colleagues can collect material and also submit material being useful to spread to each other regarding both research and activities related to education. Connected to each BUP Theme, we are presenting researchers, to serve as an inter-collegial network.

During 2019, a lot of time have been spent arranging the upcoming BUP SYMPOSIUM 2020 that will take place between the 24-28th of August 2020 at Uppsala University, Campus Gotland, Visby, Sweden. The location of Visby in the middle of the Baltic Sea, makes it the central setting to discuss the future of sustainability in the region. As the Symposium is one of the outcomes from the Rectors' meeting in Åbo in 2018 where the Baltic University Programme was asked to expand information and more activities targeted at researchers, we invite the Rectors to Visby as well for a rectors meeting. The Symposium is certainly what the BUP is about: internationalization in practice. As one of several favorable outcomes of the symposium, we will establish networks of researchers within each BUP Theme. The recently formed network within Sustainable Tourism is an example of just how easy this can be. We hope many of you will find the symposium program interesting and topical, and that you will be able to join us in Visby!

The Baltic University Programme is about Internationalization in Practice! With these words, I want to thank all of you who have contributed in 2019 to the BUP activities in all the 12 member countries.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Madeleine Granvik". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The history of BUP

Text by former BUP Director Lars Rydén

The Baltic University Programme has existed since 1991. The Baltic University originates from the years of dramatic political change to a new system at the end of the 1980s and early 1990s. Until then the East-West divide had been very solid, a real iron curtain, which offered few opportunities for academic cooperation. The changes started with glasnost and perestroika in the late 1980s. Meetings with European University Rectors, resulted in the proposal to develop a university cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region based on satellite TV, to allow for a much broader participation and student involvement was made and accepted by Uppsala University in April 1989. The knowledge of universities in communist Central and Eastern Europe was minimal. Where to write invitation letters and to whom? We expected 20 universities, but 33 came!

The first conference was unanimously deciding on developing a Baltic Sea region university network to produce a satellite TV based course focusing on the environment to be called "The Baltic Sea Environment". All participants were encouraged to make short video documentaries on environmental issues from their countries.

Two critical issues had to be solved the coming months. First financing, but also willing (not to say enthusiastic) colleagues in the satellite TV sector. A small secretariat for BUP was created at Uppsala University to coordinate all this. In the spring and summer of 1991 the number of universities which wanted to take part increased all the time. In month of May it had reached 70. Participating universities were offered satellite receivers for a reduced price. The first satellite TV broadcast were staged in October 1991. It had two hours filled with documentaries from many of the countries in the region and with several of the researchers present in the broadcast. Up to May 1992, ten such broadcasts were performed including two so-called space bridges, discussions between three universities in the network, each with many students taking part. For each broadcast a small book on the topic had been produced and distributed. That constituted the course literature. A total of 3600 students in 9 countries took part in this very first course. During this first year of the Baltic University Programme, the first fully free election in Poland was held in October 1991, the Soviet Union was dissolved in December 1991, and a second much stronger Convention for the protection of the Baltic Sea was adopted in spring of 1992. The number of participating universities had increased to 84 and universities in Belarus and Ukraine had been invited to take part as well.

The continuation – our common regional history

After the first pioneering year the enthusiasm for going on just increased. The universities continued to offer the course The Baltic Sea Environment for new student groups using the material available. Two more space bridges were broadcast to let new student groups be part of the discussions. In the fall of 1992 plans were made for a second course this time on the region itself, its peoples including the very many minorities, its history, languages and religions. It was much more of a challenge since here we started to run into sensitive areas. How to deal with Nazism and Stalinism? Some argued that this should not be done. Our thinking was that we need to talk about this, especially young people need to talk about this. And then who should stage this if not universities? In the spring of 1993 documentaries and books were produced for the new course Peoples of the Baltic, which was broadcast during 1993-94. This time the broadcast were made not only from Sweden and Uppsala but from all countries around the Baltic Sea, from Visby, Åbo/Turku, and St Petersburg, to Gdansk and Berlin, and there were as well space bridges. A special effort was made to analyze security in the region and the concept of security community was introduced.

Focus on sustainable development

In the aftermath of the UN 1992 conference on Environment and Development, UNCED, in Rio the concept of sustainable development had become more and more in focus. The Baltic University Programme introduced the topic for its students already in the spring of 1992 in the last broadcast of the Baltic Sea Environment course. This time the books became much bigger than before and the TV material not any longer broadcast but distributed as videotapes. The course A Sustainable Baltic Region was delivered in the spring of 1997. The interest was again very large and a total of 4000 students followed. This continued the following years and at least some 50 000 students have learned about the basics of sustainable development over the years using this material, which was translated into Polish, Latvian and Russian. The first decade of the Baltic University ended with efforts to bring the education to the master level. In 1998 the master course Sustainable Water Management was produced. By this time Internet had become a working possibility and Satellite TV had come to an end. Discussion between student groups were made using this new channel for interaction. This course were finally made as a distance course with all material downloadable on the Internet.

More than education

The Baltic University at this stage started to go outside its main area of education. Cooperation with municipalities in the region began in a number of projects with a practical approach to sustainable urban development. Several laboratories for Geographical Information Systems, GIS, were established and a smaller research activities started. Member universities in the entire Baltic Sea region, now including 14 countries, took their own initiatives and responsibilities for developing the Baltic University Programme, which had come to stay as a prime case of regional cooperation.

Overview of the BUP organization 2019

National Centres 2019

Belarus
Belarusian State University
Elena Pilgun

Czech Republic
Technical University of Ostrava
Jana Kodymova and Alena Labodova

Estonia
Euroacademia
Tatyana Põlayeva

Finland
Åbo Akademi University
Cecilia Lundberg

Germany
University of Applied Sciences Zittau/Görlitz
Bernd Delakowitz

Russia
Kaliningrad State Technical University
Pavel Kovalishin

Latvia
Riga Technical University
Juris Iljins

Lithuania
Kaunas University of Technology
Visvaldas Varzinkas

Poland
Technical University of Łódź
Ireneusz Zbicinski

Slovakia
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra
Barbora Cakovska

Sweden
Södertörn University
Joakim Ekman

Ukraine
Ivan Franko National University of Lviv
Iryna Kriba

The BUP Board 2019

Olle Jansson, Advisor to the Vice-Chancellor, Uppsala University, Sweden (Chair)

Ireneusz Zbicinski, Prof., Łódź, University of Technology, Łódź, Poland (Vice Chair)

Tapio Salmi, Prof., Åbo Akademi University, Finland

Walter Leal, Prof., Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg, Germany

Hele Kiimann, Affiliated researcher, IRES, Uppsala University, Sweden

Magdalena Kuchler, Associate Senior Lecturer, Uppsala University, Sweden

Eva Friman, Adjunct Prof., Director SWEDESD, Uppsala University

Joakim Ekman, Prof., Södertörn University, Sweden

Elena Kropinova, Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University, Kaliningrad

Camilla Eriksson, FOI, Sweden

Gunilla Blomquist, Ministry of the Environment and Energy, Sweden

Student representatives:
Mirjam Weituschat, University of Greifswald, Germany

Ellen Chkhitadze, Marii Curie Skodowska University, Lublin, Poland

The Coordinating Secretariat 2019

Director: Madeleine Granvik, PhD, Assoc. Prof.
Project Coordinator: Lyudmyla Babak, MA
Web Master: Christian Andersson, PhD
Project Assistant: Pontus Ambros, MSc
Communications Officer: Ulrika Klintberg, BA

The Secretariats

The Coordinating Secretariat 2019

The Baltic University Programme is coordinated by a Secretariat at Uppsala University, Sweden. This function has an overall organizational responsibility for the Programme. The BUP Director is head of the Coordinating Secretariat at Uppsala University, and responsible for the strategic work of the programme, as well as planning for and the execution of the Board-, Centre Directors and Working Committee Meetings. The Director also takes part in planning the BUP Presidency together with the National Centre Director. Another important task of the Director is being part of Scientific Committees. The Project Coordinator is responsible for the project lead of EduBUP and other projects. The role also contains administration of memberships, economics, invitations and the practical arrangements for many BUP meetings and events. The Project Assistant is focused on planning and executing events aimed towards students at BUP Member Universities. The Web Master updates the main BUP web site and runs the administration of the BUP Travel Grant and PhD awards, the LinkedIn User Group, mailing lists etc. The Communications Officer edits the BUP Newsletter, Research Notes Letter and Annual Report. The role also entails the production of communications materials, diplomas etc.



Director
Madeleine Granvik



Project Coordinator
Lyudmyla Babak



Web Master
Christian Andersson



Project Assistant
Pontus Ambros



Communications Officer
Ulrika Klintberg

The three Associated Secretariats

The Coordinating Secretariat is complemented with three Associate Secretariats, that have an extended responsibility for different BUP activities. Tasks and responsibilities are distributed according to the area of expertise available. The budget for each Associated Secretariat is controlled independently from the Coordinating Secretariat and is funded by local means.

Łódź University of Technology

The BUP Associate Secretariat and National Centre in Poland, is situated at the Łódź University of Technology. For a number of years the associated secretariat in Poland has focused its involvement in the BUP on education and student events.

A PhD student training has been held for many years. In 2019 the 7th BUP PhD Student Training was organized in Rogow. The secretariat has also been successful in the work to enrol more Polish universities as BUP Member Universities.

Åbo Akademi University

The BUP Associate Secretariat in Åbo/Turku is situated at the Åbo Akademi University's Centre for Lifelong Learning where professional development for academics is a core mission. This gives us a good platform to focus on the BUP university teachers' competence development.

BUP systematically organize and finance teachers' competence development courses and conferences about sustainable development, and education for and about sustainability. The Associated Secretariat in Åbo organize and finance SAIL for teachers.

Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

The BUP Associate Secretariat in Hamburg, Germany hosts the BUP Research and Publications Office (BUPRaP), a research and publications infrastructure whose aim is to support the BUP Member Universities to foster their research activities and enhance their publications output and profile. This is done in two main ways:

- By means of externally funded projects which BUPRaP may coordinate or be partners of
- By underpinning BUP Member Universities academics basis by facilitating the publication of scientific works in indexed journals

The National Centres

The BUP has 12 National Centres during 2019. The establishment of National Centres as a part of the organisation, has been in effect since 1995. The reason to organize in this manner is twofold: this gives us an opportunity to coordinate activities, and to communicate more efficiently within each country. The other reason is that each student, teacher and researcher will more easily access the organisation through the centres. The National Centres are located at a Member University and employ at least one person or more with acknowledged expertise and academic background in one or more of the BUP Themes.

The BUP National Centres are the very core of the organisation. All centres are under the leadership of a Centre Director, that provide local, national and international knowledge and contacts. They arrange and coordinate events in their respective countries. Twice a year, the Centre Directors gather to discuss and coordinate their activities. During 2019 this was done in Gdansk in June (in relation to the EUSBSR Forum), and in Kaliningrad in October (in relation to the Baltic Maritime Forum).

The 12 BUP National Centre Directors 2019



Russian National Centre
Pavel Kovalishin,
Kaliningrad State
Technical University



Lithuanian National
Centre
Visvaldas Varzinskas,
Kaunas University of
Technology



Belarus National Centre
Elena Pilgun,
Belarusian State
University



Swedish National Centre
Joakim Ekman,
Södertörn University



Latvian National Centre
Juris Iljins,
Riga Technical University



Slovakian National Centre
Barbora Cakovská,
Slovak University of Agri-
culture in Nitra



Czech National Centre
Jana Kodymová (on pa-
rental leave),
VSB - Technical
University Ostrava



Czech National Centre
Alena Labodova (Acting
Director),
VSB - Technical
University Ostrava



Estonian National Centre
Tatyana Pölayeva,
Euroacademy



German National Centre,
Bernd Delakowitz,
Hochschule Zittau/
Görlitz



Polish National Centre
Ireneusz Zbicinki,
Łódz University of Tech-
nology



Finnish National Centre
Cecilia Lundberg,
Åbo Academi University



Ukrainian National Centre,
Iryna Kriiba,
Ivan Franko National
University of Lviv

BUP Presidency

Since 2016 the BUP has used a rotation schedule for a presidency period in the organization. The rotation was developed to share the responsibilities of some of our annual events, but also to make a more direct opportunity to influence the BUP events.

All BUP National Centres will hold the BUP Presidency during a six month period according to the rotation schedule. The holder of the presidency is responsible for the content and arrangement of some of the annual BUP events. A short account of the arrangements during these periods is given below.

During 2019 the Estonian National Centre held the presidency between January and June. July to December the presidency was held by the National Centre in Russia.

Spring 2019 Estonian presidency

During the Estonian presidency 2019, Prof. Tatyana Põlajeva the centre director for the BUP National Centre, was hosted by Euroacademy in Tallinn. Several arrangements were made for different academic groups of people important for the BUP: academic teachers, students and faculty.

In January, the first regional workshop within the EduBUP project was held in Tallinn, 28-30 January. This arrangement gathered 47 university teachers from seven countries in the region. During the workshop participants focused on addressing local and regional sustainable developmental challenges, as well as the possibilities of re-orienting teaching and learning processes to respond to these challenges.

In March the second workshop on ESD in Higher Education II, was held in Tallinn, 6-8 March. This arrangement gathered 27 persons from 19 different BUP Member Universities.

The BUP Student Conference entitled “Sustainable Consumption and Circular Economy”, welcomed 80 participants, from 42 universities and 12 countries. It was held in 25-28 April, in Aegviidu, Estonia. The participants enjoyed a well worked out program with workshops, student parliament, lectures and some more leisurely activities.

Autumn 2019 Russian presidency

The activities that took place during the Russian presidency concentrated on four main points: internationalization; interdisciplinarity; Concentration of Climate Change, and volunteer-ship. All points were successfully addressed during the events arranged during the Russian BUP presidency.

For students, the first BUP International Sea Yawl Voyage ever was arranged 28 July – 5 August in The Curonian Spit National Park, The Curonian Lagoon in Kaliningrad. This was an event where students could meet and learn about the ecology of the national park and each other. As the sea yawl voyage was, according to the evaluation result, very successful, the Russian National Centre would like to continue to arrange it.

In October, the BUP took part of the Baltic Maritime Forum with a speech of BUP Director Madeleine Granvik at the grand opening, as well as with a BUP Conference that included presentations and workshops. In vicinity to this, the BUP Centre Directors held their meeting and even got to visit the world's biggest sail training ship Kruzenshtern.

The events during the Russian presidency were realized with the help of Assoc. Prof. Pavel Kovalishin, Centre Director for the Russian BUP Centre, hosted by Kaliningrad State Technical University, Baltic Fishing Fleet State Academy.

Plan of the BUP presidency

Spring 2019 – Estonia
Autumn 2019 – Russia

Spring 2020 – Slovakia
Autumn 2020 – Sweden

Spring 2021 – Belarus
Autumn 2021 – Czech Republic

Spring 2022 – Latvia
Autumn 2022 – Finland

Spring 2023 - Ukraine
Autumn 2023 - Lithuania

Spring 2024 - Germany
Autumn 2024 - Poland

Member Universities 2019

From 2016 and onwards the Baltic University Programme is a member organization. At the end of 2019, the organization had 87 Member Universities, most of them situated in the drainage area of the Baltic Sea Region. Researchers, academic teachers and students from a member university have priority to take part in all BUP activities free of charge. Our hope is that our Programme will lead to more visibility and cooperation among researchers, teachers and students. We also hope that we will foster a greater awareness on sustainability and democracy issues as well as facilitate exchange and mobility which reflects the needs of many universities. In turn, we believe this leads to more common projects and more success in funding and publications. Worth noticing, is the unique range of international activities offered by BUP to students, academic teachers and researchers.

Belarus

Belarusian State Economic University
Belarusian State University
Grodno State Medical University
International Sakharov Environmental Institute-
of Belarusian State University
Plekhanov Russian University of Economics
Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno

Czech Republic

University of Ostrava
VSB-Technical University of Ostrava

Estonia

Estonian University of Life Sciences
Euroacademy
Tallinn University
University of Tartu

Finland

Åbo Akademi University
Åland University of Applied Sciences
Arcada University of Applied Sciences
Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences
Novia University of Applied Sciences
Satakunta University of Applied Sciences
Turku University of Applied Sciences
University of Jyväskylä
University of Turku

Germany

Hamburg University of Applied Sciences
Kiel University
University of Greifswald
University of Rostock
Zittau/Görlitz University of Applied Sciences

Latvia

Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies
Liepaja University
Riga Technical University

University of Latvia

Ventspils University of Applied Sciences

Lithuania

Kaunas University of Technology
Vilnius University

Poland

Adam Mickiewicz University
AGH University of Science and Technology
Bialystok University of Technology
Gdansk University of Technology
Jagiellonian University
Łódź University of Technology
Lublin University of Technology
Maria-Curie Skłodowska University
Maritime University of Szczecin
Medical University of Łódź
Pedagogical University in Cracow
Poznan University of Economic and Business
Poznan University of Technology
The President Stanislaw Wojciechowski State-
University of Applied Sciences
Siedlce University Of Natural Sciences and Humanities
State College of Applied Sciences
State University of Applied Sciences
University of Gdansk
University of Łódź
University of Social Sciences and Humanities
University of Szczecin
University of Warsaw
UTP University of Science and Technology in
Bydgoszcz
Warsaw School of Economics (SGH)
Wrocław Medical University
Wrocław University of Science and Technology
WSB University in Poznan

Russia

Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University
Kaliningrad State Technical University
Russian State Hydro meteorological University



Slovakia

Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra

Sweden

Center for Environment and Sustainability of
Chalmers University of Technology and Göteborg
University

KTH, Royal Institute of Technology

Luleå Technical University

Lund University

Malmö University

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)

Södertörns University

Umeå University

University of Gävle

Uppsala University

World Maritime University

Ukraine

Bila Tserkva National Agrarian University

Chernihiv National University of Technology

Ivan Franko National University of Lviv

Lviv National Agrarian University

Lviv Polytechnic National University

National Aviation University

National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

Sumy State University

Ternopil Ivan Puluj National Technical University

Ternopil State Medical University

Ternopil Volodymyr Hnatiuk National Pedagogical
University

Ukrainian National Forestry University

At the end of 2019 The Baltic University Programme had **87** Member Universities. We strive to have even more members by next year that could take advantage of our Programme and become members.



How to become a BUP Member University

The procedure to become a BUP Member University is updated and we are implementing a new process. To become a member, just contact the Baltic University Programme's Coordinating Secretariat (info@balticuniv.uu.se) to let them know Your university is interested in joining the Programme.



Why become a BUP Member University

The Baltic University Programme creates a rich learning environment where vice chancellors/rectors-, academic teachers-, researchers-, faculty employees-, PhD candidates and student meet during different kinds of academic events. The regional perspective is highlighted and the approach is mainly interdisciplinary. Colleagues from a Member University will not only have priority to take part in all BUP activities, but will get access to our events without any extra cost. Our hope is that our Programme will lead to more regional cooperation and foster a greater awareness on sustainability and democracy issues as well as facilitate exchange and mobility. In turn, we believe that this leads to more common projects and more success in funding and publications.



Annual BUP activities

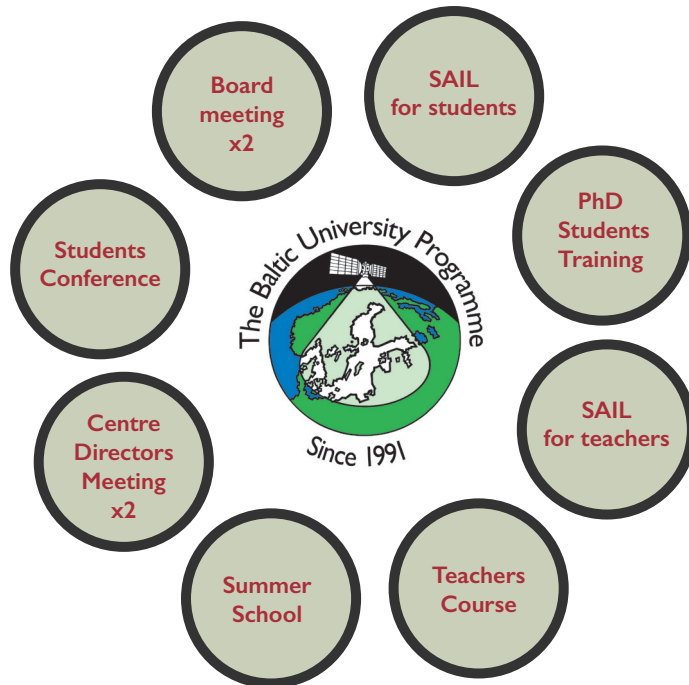
Every year The Baltic University Programme arranges many different academic activities. Some of them are annual, contributing to the continuation of the Programme.

BUP is today responsible for some of the Baltic Sea Region's most appreciated arrangements and a source of information for university students, university teachers and researchers. The different events are firmly established in the areas of sustainable development, environmental protection, nature resources, democracy and Education for Sustainable Development. One of our annual event is the PhD Students training as one of the most prominent examples. The BUP also grants a PhD Award and Mobility grant for young scholars.

The annual events all contribute to the internationalization aim of the BUP and for the aim of gaining and disseminating knowledge within our nine BUP Themes. The regional perspective is highlighted and the approach is mainly interdisciplinary.



In the following pages, the annual activities in 2019 are presented alongside other more specific events.



The calendar below shows an overview of activities in 2019

January

28 - 30 January
EduBUP First Regional Workshop
Tallin, Estonia

February

22 - 23 February
BSN Closing Conference
Riga, Latvia

March

6 - 8 March
BUP Teachers Course on ESD in
Higher Education II
Tallinn, Estonia

April

25 - 28 April
BUP Students Conference
Aegviidu, Estonia

May

27 - 29 May
Internationalization in Practice I
Uppsala, Sweden

June

8 - 11 June
Baltic Sea Region Youth Camp
and The 10th Annual Forum of
the EUSBSR
Gdansk, Poland

10 - 13 June
Sustainable Water Resources
Management in high mountains in
the Baltic Sea Region
Zakopane, Poland

26 June - 3 July
SAIL for Teachers
Szczecin, Poland to Århus,
Denmark

July

31 July - 5 August
International Sea Yawl Voyage
The Curonian Spit National Park,
Kaliningrad, Russia

August

4 - 16 August
SAIL for Students
Århus, Denmark to Szczecin,
Poland

September

3 - 7 September
BUP Summer Course
Lviv, Ukraine

November

7 November
Scientific Conference for PhD
Students
Nitra, Slovakia

21-22 November
Actual Environmental Problems
Minsk, Belarus

24 - 28 November
BUP PhD students training
Rogów, Poland

December

9 - 11 December
Internationalization in Practice II
Uppsala, Sweden

Participation statistics

For each BUP event, colleagues from the BUP Member Universities send us applications in a larger number than we can accommodate, due to lack of places. In the table below are some statistics on the participation of Member Universities and students, teachers and researchers at the BUP events during 2019. When arranging the different events, the BUP strives to create a diverse group of people, from as many countries, Member Universities and disciplines as possible. The numerical account tells us that most of the arrangements display a satisfactory internationalization opportunity for the participants. However, there is still room for improvement and to mitigate, we started to pinpoint calls for application to some countries and Member Universities from where we would like to see a greater involvement. This resulted in a larger amount of applicants for the BUP arrangements.

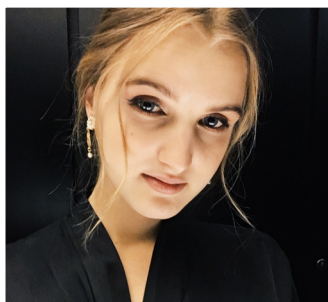
Country	Member Universities, participants	Teacher course on ESD III	EduBUP PhD Stud. training	SAIL for Students	SAIL for Teachers	BUP Summer School	BUP Students Conf.	Int'l Sea Yawl Voyage	Annual Forum Gdansk
Belarus	Member Universities	1	3	1	1		3	4	1
	Participants	1	14		1		7	6	1
Czech Republic	Member Universities			1	1		2	1	
	Participants			3	2		5	2	
Estonia	Member Universities	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
	Participants	1	1	1	1	2	5	4	1
Finland	Member Universities	1		1	3	2		3	2
	Participants	1		1	3	2		7	2
Germany	Member Universities			2	2		3	2	1
	Participants			5	3		22	3	1
Latvia	Member Universities		1	3	1		2	1	2
	Participants		1	3	1		3	1	4
Lithuania	Member Universities		1	2	2		1	1	
	Participants		6	2	3		1	2	
Poland	Member Universities	6	4	5	4	5	2	11	2
	Participants	7	15	7	4	8	3	12	4
Russia	Member Universities	1	2	2	2	1		2	2
	Participants	1	7	3	3	1		5	2
Slovakia	Member Universities	1		1		1	1	1	
	Participants	2		1		3	2	5	5
Sweden	Member Universities	1	2	2	2	3	2	6	
	Participants	3	3	3	3	5	2	7	
Ukraine	Member Universities	7	6	2	3	3	2	5	2
	Participants	11	18	3	3	4	5	6	2

Student activities 2019

The year of 2019 BUP more than doubled the number of activities for students, with five major student events. Most of these events focused on the BUP Theme of Circular Economy. The year started with the annual student conference, this year hosted by our Estonian centre in cooperation with the BUP secretariat. The conference had the topic "Sustainable Consumption and Circular Economy" and had a packed program with a number of experts and actors from our region. The theme later continued, when the EU's Annual Forum for the Baltic Sea Region, took place under the same topic. Present at the Annual Forum and its back-to-back youth event "Baltic Sea Youth Camp" was a strong student delegation from BUP. The summer months continued with two different sailing events with focus on sustainable development. The first one hosted by our Russian centre in Kaliningrad, was the "International Sea Yawl Voyage" a 10-day long outdoor conference, sailing across the Curonian lagoon to the national park on the Curonian Spit and back. During these days, the students took part in fieldtrips, outdoor lectures and learned safe navigation of small boats. Soon after the 23rd SAIL for students weigh anchor onboard the tall ship Fryderyk Chopin, setting its course for 12 days at sea between Aarhus in Denmark and Szczecin in Poland. During these days, the students studied sustainability science while also crewing the ship. Last but not least, the BUP German Centre in cooperation with Ukrainian National Forestry University hosted the BUP summer course "Sustainability Innovations in a Circular Economy". In the beautiful town of L'viv, students had a chance to work with experts and take part in fieldtrips, studying the implementation of circular economy and innovation.

In total, during 2019, close to 200 students from more than 50 member universities took part in BUP events.

The Baltic Sea Region Youth Camp and 10th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



Text: Marilind Reemann, student, Tallinn University, Tallinn, Estonia

Given the opportunity by The Baltic University Programme, I was more than happy and truly excited to take a 20-hour bus ride to beautiful Gdansk on June 2019 - The Baltic Youth Camp and the 10th Annual Forum of the EUSBSR were waiting!

The Baltic Region Youth Camp was a three-day event where youth representatives from the Baltic Sea Region gathered together to explore friendship, culture and politics through workshops, small seminars and social activities. It was fun and relaxing but yet informative and a productive time! The venue of the camp was located a 30-minute drive away from Gdansk next to the Baltic Sea. I remember group sessions where we tried to come up with ideas how to improve life in the region; I remember meeting politicians face to face who came to listen to us, I remember fun evenings at the beach with fire shows, performances and lots of smiling faces!

The next stop was the 10th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region that was held in Gdansk on June 12-13. With more than 700 participants, the forum focused on circular and shared economy and raised the question of how to face the future challenges. It was pleasant to see that the conference itself was a forerunner making it 100% meat-free event with biodegradable plates and cutlery!

It was definitely one of the biggest conferences I've attended in my life so far and I'm truly grateful for being able to discuss important topics with stakeholders from all around the Baltic Sea Region. Three main thematic sessions as well as several discussions gave a good insight to some potential future plans regarding the development in the Baltic Sea Region. One of the sessions focused on implementing circular economy in the region and proposed some good governance practices to be followed. I remember one of these suggestions was to develop a long-term holistic vision about the circular ambitions of any city. It was really inspiring to see that moving towards a circularity can be reachable if done step by step. The forum not only focused on our future but also drew attention to some of the urgent problems that need our instant action now. I got to attend two sessions that were searching for solutions to tackle both the huge food-waste problem as well as the critical state of the Baltic Sea. Having witnessed many great opportunities and solutions for these problems I really hope all these great ideas arised during the Annual Forum will actually get implemented and call for some real action.

Based on my own experience I'd like to invite everyone to grab the chance and attend upcoming events offered by The Baltic University Programme!



In early June, the BUP in cooperation with Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation invited a group of 15 students to attend the Baltic Sea Youth Camp and the 10th Annual Forum of the EU strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. The students got the opportunity to both interact with other youth as well as attend one of the largest political events in our region.



Student conference in Aegviidu, Estonia



In late April, the BUP organized its annual student conference in Aegviidu, Estonia. As hosts for the event was the BUP Estonian Centre with support from the BUP secretariat in Uppsala. Here is a short report from our Student representative Mirjam Weituschat.

Our student conference combined the possibilities to extend our skills and knowledge on the topic of sustainable consumption and circular economy, to enhance our network, find new friends and to spend some enjoyable days in the Estonian countryside.

After catching the shuttle from Tallinn to the small village of Aegviidu, the students were welcomed by the organizers of the conference, Tatjana Põlajeva, Pontus Ambros, some student helpers and myself. The program started with an introduction to the topic as well as to the Baltic University Programme. But what about introducing ourselves? Have you ever tried to remember 70 names and faces within 2,5 days? Some ice-breakers and getting-to-know games were a good start.

The next day was packed with highly interesting presentations about how circular economy is applied in Finland, Sweden and Estonia, and how this principle needs to be applied in policies in order to work on the whole. Since we all know that people can only concentrate for a limited amount of time, there were frequent delicious coffee breaks and the 1st BUP Olympics took place outside on the area of the hotel. The Olympic winning team was awarded and rewarded with Estonian sweets right before the start of our cultural evening. This event was possible through the support of each and every student of the conference: The students offered specialties which they had brought from their home countries. We had the chance to try sweets, hearty snacks, and drinks from all over the Baltic Sea Region and some of us even got taught how to crack sunflower seeds while practicing the Russian squat. To make the evening complete, the sauna was heated for us.

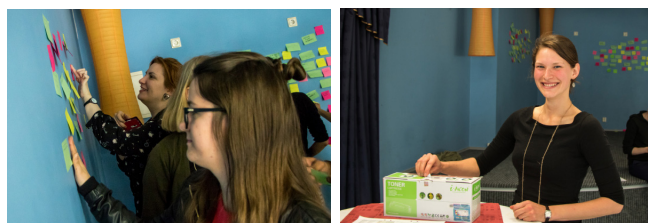
On the next morning, it was time for the students to become active themselves. We played the educational game 'In the Loop' which was explained to us by its

developers. The goal is to put ourselves in the position of a company who needs to switch to circular economy because the resources become scarce and unavailable. During the following IMPACT workshop we got an impression on which factors impact the price of our smartphones and found out about the ecological consequences of our consumption.

During the annual parliamentary session, the students were able to bring forward their proposals for the development of the BUP. According to these, BUP students consider important to include a global perspective in our topics, to increase the amount of vegetarian meals during BUP events drastically, and to establish a new position of a student ambassador within the BUP. The second part of the parliament session constitutes the election of the new (deputy) student representative. Ellen Chkhitadze from Marii Curie Skłodowska University in Poland was elected for this two-year position. My warmest congratulations! I am looking forward to our cooperation!

After the official closing ceremony, we enjoyed the last evening of the conference with music and traditional dances from some countries of the Baltic Sea. We had a great time!

“We had a great time!”



SAIL for Students

Text and photos: Dominika Stygar, SAIL coordinator

The SAIL conference builds on extensive experience, out-of-box thinking, sensibility to extraordinary ideas, unique know-how on organizing a conference at sea and a passion to reach out and teach about sustainable and democratic development in the Baltic Sea Region. Those are the reasons that once more set us at sea to organize SAIL Students Conference 2019. Anyone can organize a conference, but only The Baltic University Programme can organize The Sustainability Applied in International Learning – SAIL for Students.

The SAIL conferences are inspiring, challenging, uncommon, and in almost all aspects very different from traditional conferences. 12 days of sailing, 65 working academic hours, 48h of night watches, off-hours project work and an uncounted number of informal teachers – student's conversations. Regardless of age, and academic title, or academic residence, the SAIL is a platform for everybody to learn from each other. This year together with 29 fantastic students coming from 11 countries in the Baltic Sea Region, we were SAILing from Aalborg in Denmark to Szczecin in Poland. This was possible due to tremendous support from the BUP National Centers, which actively participated in the process of recruitment and selection of students. The age of the students ranged from 19 years up to 32 years old, 19 females and 11 males, coming from 1st to 5th year of their studies covering staggering 21 different academic fields. To teach such a heterogeneous, international group of students in the middle of the ocean without any modern technical tools is challenging! During academic sessions, the teachers and students discussed sustainability issues in the areas of economics, conflict resolution, land grabbing, public health, design thinking, political sciences, ecosystem services and energy systems. We were happy to have passionate and professional teachers on-board. Thank you for being a part of SAIL teacher's community! SAIL students visited Malmö University (Sweden) and Marine Hel Station (University of Gdansk, Poland). Every day two dynamic academic sessions were conducted and attended. Workshops and lectures encouraged

participants to think and work in an interdisciplinary way to study and understand complex sustainability challenges. Theoretical and practical knowledge was tested using art, economy exercises, design thinking, and socio-geographical brainstorm sessions. There was also something for those, who like numbers: the idea to design small wind turbine from used materials. Students had the opportunity to cooperate in the international groups making short clips on conflict resolutions (some of them you can see: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbiGzd-CUMEx7zjikup9MEA>).

The unique character of the SAIL conference is connected with the different working and studying environment given by a tall ship. Aside of building the students knowledge and academic competences while sailing at the sea, the soft skills of all crew members are highly trained: recourses management; working under time pressure; the ability to cope with changes and challenges; understanding of sustainability and the marine environment in practice; stepping outside the comfort zone, increasing levels of academic ability and achievement.

SAIL, as a concept of merging students and teachers from different countries, nationalities, cultural and educational backgrounds and connect them by common goals of SAILing is unique in our part of Europe. We are strong together and united. Thank you for supporting and participating in SAIL 2019.



"I have participated in many conferences before, but SAIL was like no other! Those 12 days full of teamwork, inspiration, insightful discussions and stepping out of my comfort zone was a time I will never forget! SAIL was a unique experience not only because of its extraordinary location (which was sometimes changing every minute!) but also because of the atmosphere on board. People coming from different countries and studying very different subjects made it extremely interesting to have discussions and exchange of opinions; what is more SAIL let us understand the true meaning of teamwork and see how much more that can be achieved together! I think that is the biggest lesson I took from this experience and I would strongly recommend participating in SAIL to everyone!

Ahoy adventure!"

Wiktoria Kaszta, SGH Warsaw School of Economics, Warsaw, Poland

SAIL for Teachers

Text and photos: Sinikka Suomalainen, BUP Åbo Akademi University

The BUP Teacher SAIL 2019 returned to the Baltic Sea environment area, after some years mainly at the North Sea. The sailing with tall ship STS Fryderyk Chopin started from Szczecin in Poland and ended in Aalborg in Denmark. The 32 participants from 9 countries and 19 BUP member universities represented multidisciplinary universities, and specialised in economics, technology, agriculture and forestry. SAIL – Sustainability Applied in International Learning and Teaching, one-week sailing, is focusing on interdisciplinarity. The participants contributed with their own expertise on sustainability issues.

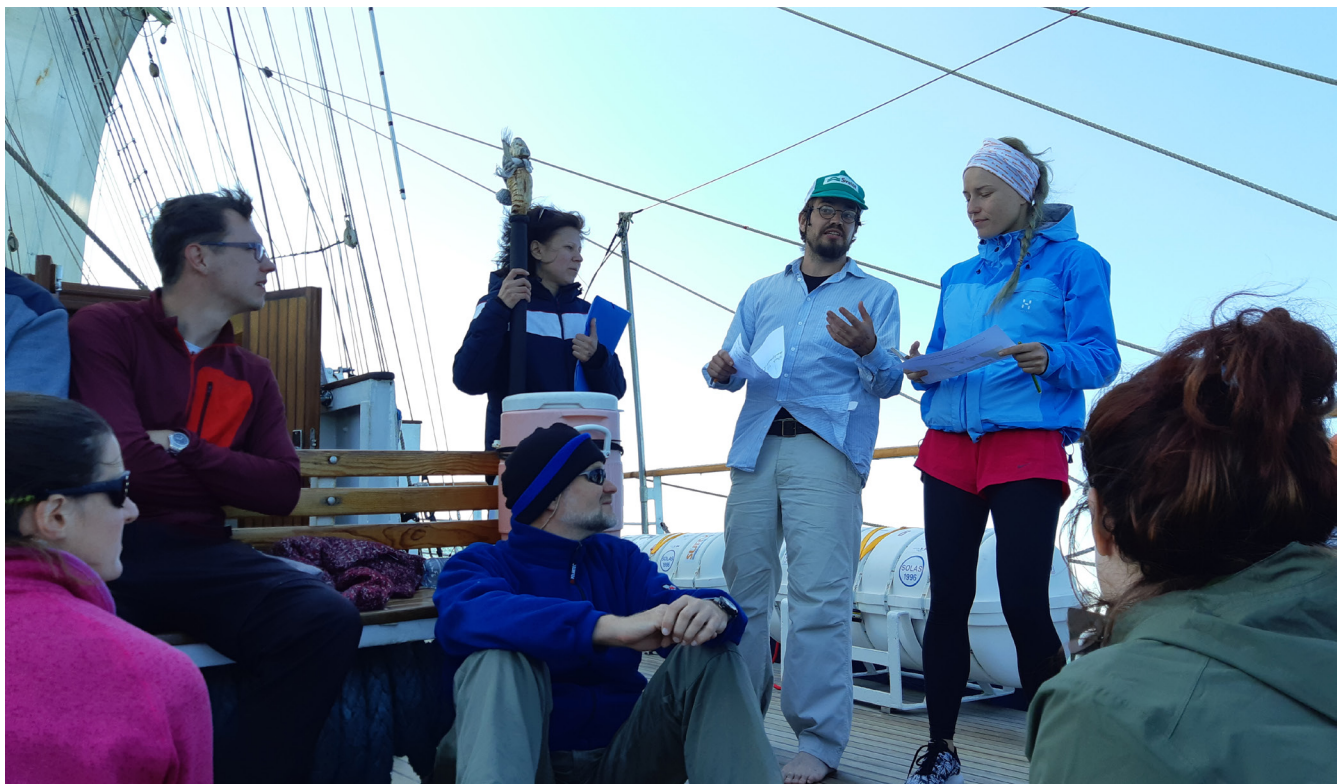
The ship forms a special learning environment outside the comfort zone. On board Chopin, the university teachers participated in academic sessions and the ship duties. The academic sessions consist of invited lectures and prepared quizzes, and discussions led by participants in the whole group. Sharing knowledge, learning together and learning from each other in the multidisciplinary group were appreciated.

Working as crew in four hour watches around-the-clock working, in three international watches, promoted team working with colleagues from other BSR countries and universities. Work on the tall ship included work with cooking, steering the ship, setting and hauling sails, pulling lines, and voluntary climbing on the masts, 37 meter high over the waterline.

The BUP Teacher SAIL from Szczecin 26 June to Aalborg 3 July 2019 was the seventh Teachers SAIL organized by the BUP secretariat at Åbo Akademi University as the main organizer, in cooperation with BUP secretariat at Uppsala University. As the scientific coordinator functioned prof. Lars Österlund from Uppsala University.



Sailing in good weather



Sessions on board

Summer Course in Lviv, Ukraine

Students from the Baltic University Programme (BUP) Member Universities, 20 of them from Zittau, experience together an instructive course at the Forest University in Lviv, with numerous excursions to companies and wonderful social events. From September 3rd to September 8th, students travelled to Ukraine with the aim to participate in this year's BUP Summer Course. What the students learned and experienced there are summarized here in a wonderful way by students.

Stanislaw Horzov from Lviv, Ukraine

"On the UNFU, starting from 3 September until 7 September were carried out the summer school of Baltic University Program for the "Sustainability Innovations in a Circular Economy", in which I took part. In the event were united about 60 participants, including students and professors, who were representing University of Applied Science Hamburg, University of Applied Science Zittau/Görlitz, WSB University in Wrocław, Ivan Franko National University of Lviv and National Forestry University of Ukraine. Taking in the account the main vision of the school, during presentations were raised topics about ecological, green and circular economics, sustainable development of industry and search of opportunities for usage alternative resources in conditions of economic growth.

Very important part of the summer school was a big number not only of professors, but the students. Event united bachelor, master and Ph.D students, who are studying by educational programs of economics, management, ecology, biotechnology, sociology, forestry, technologies of woodworking and industrial engineering from Ukraine, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Italy, France, Mexico and Belarus. As in result, each presentation was having always active conversation, additions and discussion, in which every student was taking part. Also, by the program were planned interesting excursions in factories of companies FAKRO, Enzym, Carlsberg Ukraine and furniture factory "Mebli-Styl" ("Furniture-Style") with the goal of learning organization, management and effective usage of supply. This experience added to me the understanding of practical points, which are connected with the development of strategies with establishment of effective principles of production.

For me, the most exciting became the very last day, when there was organized learning group games, when we were trying to build production links between factories for the recycling supplies and receiving the resources, which will be used for delivering effective production of goods for the market and consumers. This method of learning was developed on base of materials about industrial symbiosis and in this uncommon and intensive way out group in practise figure out this topic with significant conclusions about this form of development of industry. In the end, I would like to give the warmest thank you for making this event a reality for organizers from UNFU: vice-rector Mykola Borys, Lyudmyla Zahvoyska, Lyudmyla Maksymiv, Ihor Soloviy, Victoria Oliferchuk, Solomia Salabay; organizers of The Baltic

University Programme and University of Applied Science Zittau/Görlitz: Jana Brauweiler, Markus Will, Anke Zenker-Hoffmann; from University of Applied Science Hamburg: Walter Leal Filho. It was fascinating week, which was full of interesting events and impressions, and I recommend to participate in a future summer schools and events of The Baltic University Programme - all students and professors!"



Klaudia Zamora from University of Łódź, Poland

I would like to say thank you for BUP Summer Course 2019 "Sustainability innovations in a circular economy" in Lviv. It was my first course in BUP and for sure not the last one! The greatest was the atmosphere. I felt like everyone is welcome to share thoughts and doubts. It is very important for me - young student - to feel like all professors are open to discuss with me and respect my opinion.

The subject was very modern and suited to my interests. All lectures made me to think deeper about present-days issues and made me believe more in the circular economy. Thank you. Because I believe we can evolve faster and better due to feedback, I am sending my thoughts. It would be great if we started to change our not eco friendly habits in the course and made a good example for others for future eg. reduce plastic bottles and single-use tissues, single-use mugs, plastic pens etc. My favorite part was a game when we were able to interact more with each other. It is very hopeful spending time with young, smart and ambitious people and see how different we are but still we have the same points for our future.

Thank you for this opportunity and see you next time!



Organizers: Baltic University Programme (BUP) in cooperation with Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, European School of Sustainability Science and Research, University of Applied Sciences Zittau/Goerlitz, the Ukrainian National Forestry University and the EU projects FORCE and LARS

Teachers course on ESD in Higher Education 2019 - 2020

Text: Sinikka Suomalainen, BUP Åbo Akademi University

For the third year, the six months long course on Education for Sustainable Development is organized by the BUP Associate Secretariat at Åbo Akademi University, Finland. This course, aimed at university teachers, started in September 2019 with e-learning about sustainability part in the e-learning platform "Moodle." The first workshop was held in October 20-23 2019 in Łódź, Poland, starting with the Design Thinking workshop at the Łódź University of Technology. The participants representing 8 countries, 20 Member Universities and a variety of academic fields will work with their Change project on sustainability during the course. The Change project themes deals with an already existing course, new courses / study programmes or future teaching experience. The planning and implementation of the Change project is the main outcome of the course. Dr Shepherd Urenje, SWEDESD, Uppsala University is leading the change project process. The second and final workshop will be held in Lviv, Ukraine in March 2020. The completed course will give a certificate corresponding 5 credits (ECTS) by the Centre for Lifelong Learning at Åbo Akademi University. We are very happy for the professional and kind local arrangements of the first workshop by the BUP Associate Secretariat at Łódź University of Technology.



BUP ESD in Łódź, Design Thinking, October 2019. Photo by: Sinikka Suomalainen

Note: The course focuses on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in the learning methods in Higher Education. The participants will better integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals into their own practical teaching, courses and study programmes.

The emphasis is especially to strengthen the goals #4 "Quality education", #12 "Responsible consumption and production", and #13 "Climate action". The course includes facts in sustainability issues, with an emphasis on teaching methodology, including e-learning, peer learning and work with an individual project.

To find out more, go to the Finnish BUP web site /courses for teachers!



Teachers course on ESD in Łódź, Poland. Photo by: Cecilia Lundborg

PhD Students Training in Rogów, Poland

Text and photos: Krzysztof Ciesielski

The 24-28 October 2019 in Rogów, Poland, the seventh edition of the international training conference of PhD students organized by the Polish BUP centre took place. The PhD students training was attended by 29 PhD students from 18 BUP Member Universities. The unique feature and at the same time the main strength of this conference is its interdisciplinary character which not only develops new ideas but also stimulate the students to adjust the presentations to be comprehensible for broad audience of engineers, humanities and social scientists.

The PhD students not only had the opportunity to present their doctoral theses but also to attend a course about the forms and principles of disseminating their research results. Participants also took part in a short “design thinking” course presenting the general principles and advantages of this teaching and problem-solving methodology. One of the most important aspects of this conference was the possibility of consulting the doctoral theses with experts from various fields of science. Great opportunity for PhD

students to freely discuss all aspects of their work with a specialist from their own or related scientific discipline. Each PhD student had one hour of individual consultations with an assigned expert. The conference was attended by 27 experts from social sciences, humanities and engineering from Poland and Germany.

As usually in the BUP events, participation in the conference involves not only hard work but also social events. This time, the participants visited thermal pools in Uniejow and had dinner in the impressive interiors of a medieval castle. Irreplaceable Professor Bernd Delakowitz, Gorlitz, Germany once again presented his musical and vocal skills and gave a guitar concert for the students. During this conference, there was time for free exchange of ideas, opinions and point of views with colleagues and specialists not only about the research work but also about personal interest. The conference finished with a disco massively attended by the students.

The experts' team consisted of:

Prof. Bernd Delakowitz, University of Applied Sciences in Zittau-Görlitz, Germany
Prof. Tino Schütte, University of Applied Sciences in Zittau-Görlitz, Germany
Dr. Madelaine Granvik, Director of BUP, Uppsala University, Sweden
Prof. Arnold Bernaciak, WSB University in Poznan, Poland
Prof. Jolanta Bryjak, Wrocław University of Science and Technology, Poland
Prof. Stanisław Gawroski, Warsaw University of Life Sciences – SGGW, Poland
Prof. Dariusz Heim, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Prof. Małgorzata Janicka, University of Łódź, Poland
Prof. Liliana Krzystek, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Prof. Artur Magnuszewski, University of Warsaw, Poland
Prof. Jan Raczkowski, Łódź Medical University, Poland
Prof. Paweł Olejnik, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Prof. Paweł Strumillo, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Prof. Wojciech Wolf, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Prof. Paweł Wawrzyniak, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Prof. Ireneusz Zbiciski, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Prof. Irena Žižovi, Wrocław University of Science and Technology, Poland
Dr. Tomasz Branka, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland
Dr. Mirosław Imbierowicz, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Dr. Edyta Łaszkiwicz, University of Łódź, Poland
Dr. Piotr Zgórnjak, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Dr. Aleksandra Ziemińska-Stolarska, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
Dr. Krzysztof Jastrzębski, DT4U, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
MSc. Aleksandra Jastrzębska, DT4U, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
MSc. Grzegorz Kierner, Centre for Cooperation with Economy, Innovations and Technology Transfer, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
MA Julia Skrzyżkowska, Centre for Cooperation with Economy, Innovations and Technology Transfer, Career's Office, Łódź University of Technology, Poland

The PhD Student Training was organized by Prof. Ireneusz Zbiciski, Vice-Rector for Science of Łódź University of Technology, Poland
The Design Thinking, was led by Dr. Krzysztof Jastrzębski, MSc. Aleksandra Jastrzębska, DT4U, Łódź University of Technology, Poland
The Writing scientific papers, was led by Bernd Delakowitz, University of Applied Sciences in Zittau-Görlitz, Germany
Presentations using Power Point, and Communication challenges, was led by Dr. Tomasz Branka, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland
Poster presentations, was led by Prof. Paweł Wawrzyniak, Łódź University of Technology, Poland



Book of Abstracts

As of the 6th PhD training in Rogów, we started to publish a Book of Abstracts with materials from the participating PhD students. You can read the Book of Abstracts via our web site: www.balticuniv.uu.se/education/bup for phd students

PhD Award and Mobility Grant

Below, we proudly present the winners of the BUP PhD Thesis Award, and the winner of the BUP Mobility Grant 2019. The winners of the PhD Thesis Awards receive a prize in the form of a diploma and a sum up to 500 Euro to cover travel costs and/or accommodation for attending a research conference. In addition, BUP will also cover travel costs and accommodation for presenting the research during one of the BUP events in 2019/2020. The main aim with the Travel Grant is to develop and strengthen cooperation among young researchers in the Baltic Sea Region. The grant is intended to support young scholars from BUP Member Universities promoting research within sustainable development. The grant winner will be invited to present the research at a BUP conference, as an opportunity to disseminate results, ideas and create intra-network cooperation.

Winner in the category of Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr. Natalija Cudecka-Purina, Liepaja University, is the winner of the BUP Award for best thesis in 2018 in the category Social Sciences and Humanities, with her thesis *Ensuring Municipal Waste Management Sustainability by Administration of Landfill Management Companies*. Cudecka-Purina's thesis addresses a very timely and pressing sustainability problem, namely, waste management in the Baltic Sea Region. It explores practices that can help reduce the share of waste that goes into landfills. The research is guided by an interdisciplinary approach that combines local governance, economics and the natural science basis behind resource flows. By showing ways in which resources can be recycled instead of landfilled Cudecka-Purina contributes to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The publications Cudecka-Purina crafted in the context of this thesis bear testimony of her academic excellence. Finally, the thesis must be commended because it does not only contribute to the academic debates on waste management but it has also an applied component that helps practitioners in the field to make waste management in the Baltic Sea Region much more sustainable.



Winner in the category of Natural Sciences and Engineering

Dr. Dominika Sobotka, Gdansk University of Technology is the winner of the BUP Award 2019 for best thesis in 2018 in the category Natural Sciences, Technology and Engineering, with her thesis *Investigation of the efficiency of nitrogen removal in a sequencing batch reactor with anammox granular biomass*. The dissertation of Sobotka presents a comprehensive research covering nitrogen removal from municipal and industrial wastewaters. The PhD thesis is distinguished for the novelty on the cultivation and characterization of enriched anammox sludge and the determination of optimal parameters of the anammox process for treatment nitrogen-rich wastewater. Modern research methods required for the disciplines of environmental engineering, biotechnology, and material engineering are used in the dissertation. The dissertation delivers evidence that deammonification in both, side- and main-streams with the help of anammox process decreases the energy requirements for waste water treatment plants, reduces organic carbon source demands and minimizes the problem of disposal and reuse of activated sludge. The thesis meets all the criteria for supporting of sustainable development showing openings for reduction of excessive loads of nitrogen and phosphorus to rivers that pass into the Baltic Sea.



Winner of BUP Mobility Grant 2019

Dr. Mariia Ruda, Department of Environmental Safety and Environmental Protection (ESEP), at the V. Chornovil Institute for Sustainable Development, Lviv Polytechnic National University, Ukraine, is the winner of the BUP Mobility Research Grant 2019. In order to develop her research, she wants to visit the International Sakharov Environmental University (ISEU) in Belarus, in the spring of 2020. Ruda's project aims to study the ecological state of complex landscape systems of watersheds in the Baltic Sea Region, focusing on Ukraine and Belarus. Within the framework of the project, the idea is to identify relevant sustainable development indicators based on the studies of complex landscape systems in the two countries. The work will be of an interdisciplinary nature, as experts on environmental protection technologies, sociologists, economists and Sustainable Development Goals experts are involved in its implementation.



BUP International Sea Yawl Voyage

Text: Christian Andersson

Late in July 30 BUP students and teachers gathered in Kaliningrad, Russia for participation in the first BUP International Sea Yawls Voyage. The Sea Yawls Voyage has been organized a couple of times before by the Baltic Fishing Fleet State Academy at the Kaliningrad State Technological University, but this was the first time with students from other countries.

To begin with, we had an introduction to the Baltic Fishing Fleet State Academy and the Sea Yawls Voyage by Valdimir Makarenko and Pavel Kovalishin. The introduction then continued by introductions to the concepts of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and the SDGs, as well as an overview of the geological development and current environmental status of the Baltic Sea in general. This was then followed by a deeper look into the biological and environmental situation in the Curonian lagoon.

“Sea Yawl Voyage was a really good opportunity to do useful things...It was great!”

Semen Medvedev

Second year cadet, studying navigation at the Baltic Fishing Fleet State Academy, Kaliningrad, Russia



Another part of the preparations for the sailing was the safety practice with the yawls especially the man over board exercise. In practice, this meant we had to jump over board from the boats, with life jackets and all, and then be “rescued” a little while later.

The next day we went to a landing place in Polessk where the yawls were waiting for us. After preparing the yawls, we rowed about 5 km first in a canal and then in a river in order to reach the Curonian lagoon where we finally set sails.

Photo by: Pontus Ambros

Due to weather conditions, the yawls were towed by motorboats to a landing place near Lesnoj at the Curonian spit. In Lesnoj we quickly set up tents at the campsite belonging to a summer school. The next few days lectures on different aspects on sustainable development were mixed with practical environmental work and excursions to Curonian Spit National Park headquarters and also to fish breeding and research taking place near the camp site. The lectures dealt with sustainable development in general and sustainable water management in particular. There was also a botanical excursion in the surprisingly species rich surroundings. Other activities were more practical like collecting plastic and other rubbish from the beach.

The last evening at the campsite in Lesnoj we had a large bonfire. At the fire, songs in all possible languages were heard. The very last day of the program for the Sea Yawls Voyage included a cruise across the Curonian lagoon back to Polessk. This time the lagoon was completely blank so we had to start rowing again. However, soon a weak wind tail wind began to blow and by time it grew stronger so that the whole distance, 33 km, from Lesnoj to Polessk was covered in about six hours.

Soon after our arrival in Polessk we had a closing ceremony for the Sea Yawls Voyage. Each participant received a certificate of participation and a book on the Russian tall ship Kruzenshtern from the hands of the leader of the voyage Vladimir Volkogon.



Photo by: Christian Andersson



Photo by: Pontus Ambros

BUP participation at the ReGeneration 2030 Summit



Text: Ellen Chkhitadze, BUP Student representative

ReGeneration 2030 took place in Åland Islands and lasted for three days. It was the second annual summit, which hosted around 70 young delegates and up to 40 observers from Nordic and Baltic Sea regions. The focus was on SDG 13 "Climate Action" and SDG 12 "Sustainable consumption and production". Participants were coming from different backgrounds, though all of them were interested in Climate change and how to tackle it.

The summit was divided into presentations and mostly workshops. We had six different committees: Food Waste, Green Fashion, Zero Waste, Circular Economy, Everyday Private Consumption, Healthy and Sustainable Food System. I chose the committee of Green Fashion, because I felt like I did not have enough information about what it was. We discussed about kinds of materials that are being used in clothing industry, how they are processed and what affect they have on environment, about synthetical materials, how they are not biodegradable, and spoke about overconsumption and how to make clothing more ecofriendly. In the end of the day one we attended the HallbArt Festival, where we listened to the performance of Moddi, an amazing Norwegian artist who is also concerned about sustainability.

On the second day we met Politicians, have been visited by CEO of Ålandsbanken (bank of Åland) Peter Wiklöf. In the end of the summit every committee made a presentation and answered questions from the public.

Finally, I can say that it was an amazing summit at a beautiful location, where I met many interesting people and learned more about sustainability and how to achieve it.

Note: ReGeneration 2030 had around 110 participants on its second annual summit, which took place in Åland. During the summit students from the Baltic Sea Region discussed and openly spoke about issues concerning the climate change trying to come up with the solutions.



BUP projects 2019

EduBUP

EduBUP is all about "Re-thinking of pedagogy for implementing education for sustainable development in the Baltic University Programme countries", a project granted from the Swedish Institute. The project is led by The Baltic University Programme Coordinating Secretariat together with ten other partners in the region. The focus of the project, which is on the changing curriculum and teachers' methods, is important not only as a mean to implement sustainable development, but also to attract students to the universities. The Change project Approach is the main method being used.

The first work-shop

The participants of the project formed 17 groups in order to develop project plans and ideas on what they would like to develop or change regarding ESD at their respective universities. In the beginning of 2019, the first work shop was organized by the joined work of SWEDESD at Uppsala University and STATERA in Estonia - two main partners. The work of Dr. Shepherd Urenje and Dr. Rea Raus, who had main responsibility for the content, was highly valued by the colleagues. Besides the project itself the participants appreciated the possibility to meet and establish contact with the colleagues from countries in the Baltic Sea Region, and to acquire new knowledge and inspiration for future local work.

No workshop will be successful without planning of practical arrangements. Thus we are grateful to BUP Center Director in Estonia, Prof. Tatjana Põlajeva, representing Euroacademy for wonderful organization. Thank you Tatjana!

The second work-shop

For the second work-shop participants met in Grodno, Belarus, in October 2019. All the projects were well elaborated and ready for implementation. Besides presenting, the project groups met the experts in the field of Education for Sustainable Development as well as shared their knowledge and ideas, experience and obstacles in implementing CHANGE in their work. The topic of integrating relevant content related to the Sustainable Development Goals into their curriculum was central. The participants looked at the educational content in the context of 21st century policies and needs. They discussed the teaching competences and use of transformative learning methods. The project groups also trained in monitoring, evaluating and scaling their own project for impact.

The workshop was hosted and successfully organized by Yanka Kupala, State University of Grodno, Belarus. We are grateful to the hospitality of the university and to the enthusiastic group of organizers for the engagement!



Photo by: Natalia Ramult

All current BUP projects are supported financially by the Swedish Institute.

Supported by
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Internationalization in Practice

With the aim to improve contact, communication and continuous cooperation with international offices at each BUP Member University, the Coordinating Secretariat of BUP at Uppsala University applied to the Swedish Institute for a project grant, which was accepted.

As a result, the Coordinating Secretariat launched the program aimed at strengthening internationalization and cooperation with the countries of the Eastern Partnership (EaP): Belarus and Ukraine. The program supports our Member Universities in these countries, in establishing contact and cooperation with Swedish universities. In turn, Swedish universities' competence about Belarus and Ukraine is strengthened.

The heads of international office/vice rectors on international cooperation/Erasmus coordinators or persons occupying similar positions, were invited to apply. In the end of May 2019, the first meeting was held in Uppsala, Sweden. Participants were given opportunities to gain knowledge about the conditions for internationalization work in the three different countries, as well as information on the instruments for internationalization. They were encouraged to initiate concrete projects/activities that in the long term could lead to more extensive collaborations. After several months, in December 2019, the group met again, this time to work on actual projects and project applications. During Step two, the work was focused on a project as a form of internationalization. Participants were offered a one-day workshop on project applications, initiation and writing. They were given an opportunity to develop and practically work in groups with the concrete proposals that had been initiated within the program. Some participants from Belarus and Ukraine had arranged individual meetings with potential partners in Sweden. They met researchers, among others from Stockholm University, Halmstad University, KTH, SLU and Uppsala University.

Altogether six project proposals were developed as the results of the project. And we are very happy that two of the partnerships that have arisen during the project have submitted application to Erasmus+. We wish success to all our project partners and to the applicants of "Internationalization at Home: On the Way to Inclusive and Comprehensive Internationalization, IntHome" and "EU best practices of business and education for sustainable development of the Eastern Partnership countries (SUSTAIN)" and hope they will receive fundings!



Baltic Sea Region Climate Change Curriculum (BSRCCC)



Project partners at the first project meeting in Kaunas, Lithuania. Photo: Pontus Ambros

The BSRCCC is an 18-month long project aiming to develop a course module with teaching materials focusing on climate change in the Baltic Sea Region. The project is funded by the Swedish Institute and involves over 30 researchers from more than 12 universities and NGO's in the region. The aim is to develop a holistic, scientifically and regionally based climate change course module, written by regional researchers and experts for the students in the region. All materials will be free to use and can be adopted to already existing courses and projects.

Project page: <https://balticuniv.uu.se/projects/baltic-sea-region-climate-change-curriculum/>



BUP reach 2019

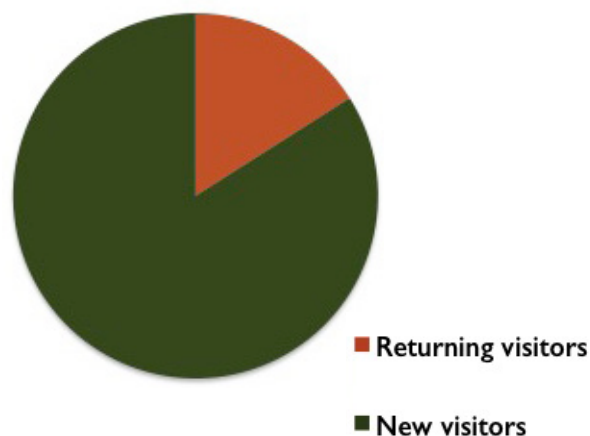
Why is the reach of information from The Baltic University Programme interesting? Well, it tells us something of how many colleagues that are interested in BUP and what we do, but also of the potential size of an audience for our calls for abstracts, applications etc. The numbers below gives an overview that indicates the situation. This is an important trait of the BUP organization - the possibility and ability to communicate and cooperate with such a large number of colleagues.

An established and large Programme like the BUP will serve an obvious advantage for Member Universities and their colleagues, as they are part of a strong Programme and are able to further educate and conduct research contributing to the development of sustainability in our region. To us, our reach shows that we can accomplish great things at the heart of our nine BUP Themes and also that we have the possibility to reach out to ever more colleagues!

BUP reach in general

1.659 followers on Facebook
2.209 recipients on the balticuniversity e-mail list
23.865 individual visitors to the web site

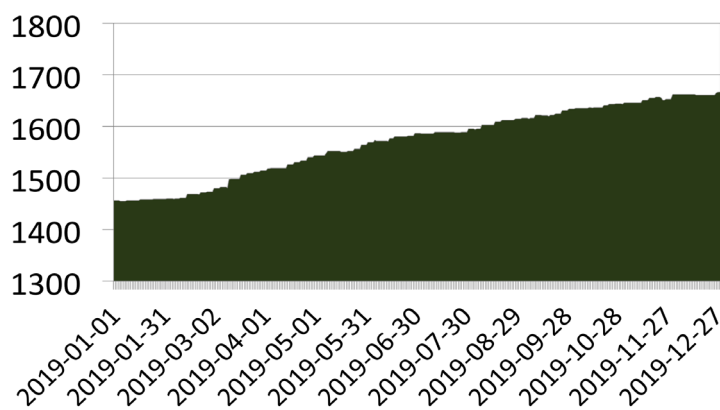
Web Site visitors



The circle diagram above describes the share of returning visitors on the BUP web site. This is approximately the same distribution as for 2018, but the numbers of visitors have increased by **+30%** for new visitors, and **+49%** of returning visitors during 2019.

Followers on Facebook

The number of followers of the BUP Facebook page increased in 2019 from **1.456** to **1.659**



Students

5 Major arrangements targeted at students
12 Different countries represented
51 Member Universities represented
149 Student attendees in total

*If you want to go fast, go alone.
 If you want to go far, go together!*

The BUP Research Notes Letter

- one year in 2019!

The Baltic University Programme's Research Notes Letter celebrated one year in the beginning of 2019. We are very pleased that it has been picking up and receiving more and more contributions from colleagues in the Programme, and we hope that our readers find the presented research interesting. The Research Notes on our web site and the Research Notes Letter is a part of an initiative to support research cooperation and researchers at our Member Universities. The initiatives are based on inputs and discussions among colleagues in the Programme.

The aim with the Research Notes is to spread research findings and knowledge about researchers and research groups at the BUP Member Universities. The Research Notes are collected in a Research Notes Letter that is regularly disseminated to Member Universities, and other universities and stakeholders in society. This is not only an opportunity to both contribute to the development of BUP research efforts and cooperations, as well as a way for colleagues to spread their research findings and information, but also a service to our Member Universities. We welcome scientific publications: peer review articles, book chapters, proceedings, and dissertations regarding the BUP themes: Climate Change, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Circular Economy, Renewable Energy, Sustainable Food Production & Consumption, Sustainable Mobility, Sustainable Tourism, Sustainable Water Resources and Urban-Rural Development.





As an example of how the Research Notes itself is catching on, is the downloading in the Urban-Rural Development section, with the top special issue being downloaded 2684 times (Granvik: Densification as a Planning Strategy). So please, take the opportunity to contribute to our Research Notes via the form on the web site: <http://www2.balticuniv.uu.se/bup-3/index.php/51-reseach-notes-form>.

Presentation of researchers within BUP

One of the main aim of the Baltic University Programme is about leading to more visibility and cooperation among researchers. As a part of this, we would like to present researchers by publishing short presentations of individual researchers on our web site, and to connect each researcher to applicable BUP Theme. We therefore welcome researchers sending us information on themselves. This is an opportunity to be more visible as a researcher and with the research. The following information is what we would like to present on the researchers:

- a) Academic title
- b) Position at university (e.g. researcher, senior lecturer, professor etc.)
- c) First name and last name
- d) Department
- e) University and university logotype
- f) Keywords (max 10)
- g) Link to profile on ResearchGate or similar
- h) Photo

For those researchers that agree, we also offer the opportunity to be able to add an e-mail-address to the presentation. We of course follow all regulations regarding the publication.

	<p>PhD, Associate Professor Madeleine Granvik Researcher Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</p> <p>Keywords: food planning, spatial planning, agricultural land, local food, local food systems, alternative food systems</p> <p>Research profile: Research Gate Madeleine Granvik.</p>	
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Planning for the future

The BUP Symposium 2020

In general for 2020 the ambitions in BUP is to focus on the potentials that Member Universities have in order to increase co-operations among the members, especially with focus on research. This has been an issue since the start 2006 of arranging BUP Rectors conferences - how to strengthen research co-operations. The Symposium is an outcome from this. During 2019, a lot of working time has been spent planning for the BUP Symposium 2020. The Baltic University Programme currently support cooperation and researchers at the Member Universities in a number of ways. Via inputs and discussions among colleagues, initiatives such as the BUP Symposium 2020 are realized. With the symposium, we are challenging researchers from different disciplines with an interest in the Baltic Sea Region as an empirical field. Our hope is that our Programme will lead to more visibility and cooperation among researchers, teachers and students. We also hope to foster a greater awareness on sustainable development issues as well as facilitate exchange and mobility. In turn, we believe that this will lead to more common projects and more success in funding and publications. Thus, the goals with BUP Symposium 2020 are:

- to establish networks of researchers within each of the nine BUP Themes
- to provide an opportunity to meet colleagues
- to provide an opportunity to disseminate and take part of new knowledge
- to provide an arena where to discuss research
- to provide an opportunity to get published and spread research in the BUP network

The Symposium will be held at Uppsala University, Campus Gotland, which is situated in the UNESCO World Heritage and Hanseatic town of Visby. The location of Visby on the island of Gotland, in the middle of the Baltic Sea, makes it the perfect setting to discuss the future of sustainability in the region.



There are three parts of the BUP Symposium:

1) Parallel BUP events (Monday 24th of August)

2) Scientific conference: **BUP Research Forum - Research and Innovation for a Sustainable Baltic Sea Region** (Tuesday 25th of August - Wednesday 26th of August). This conference will stress the BUP themes Climate Change and Renewable Energy, Sustainable Food Systems, Sustainable Water Resources, Urban-Rural Development, Sustainable Mobility, Circular Economy, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Sustainable Tourism and Sustainable Societies

3) Scientific conference: 5th World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities (WSSD-U-2020) (Thursday 27th of August - Friday 28th of August). The conference is entitled: "Universities, Sustainability and Society: Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals", and will contribute to further development of this fast-growing field.



Save the date, August 24 - 28, 2020, for the:

BUP Symposium 2020:
Research and Innovation for a Sustainable Baltic Sea Region

www.balticuniv.uu.se, #bupsymposium2020





The BUP Supervisor Collegium

The idea to establish a PhD Supervisor Collegium have been discussed during 2019, and during 2020 we plan to launch it.

Out from the existing mentorship model in the annual BUP PhD Training, where each PhD student get input from an external mentor during the training, we will develop a mentorship during a longer period - formalized supervision. It is our hope that this can even be an opportunity both for PhD students to get a co-supervisor from another university in the Baltic Sea Region, as well as an opportunity for researchers to become co-supervisor, which is an academic merit, especially for young researchers with ambition to become Associate Professor. The BUP PhD Supervisor Collegium will arrange meetings and seminars for PhD students and also PhD supervisors to exchange knowledge and experience in the role being a good supervisor. Furthermore it will serve as a forum for support, mediation of supervision, and to encourage researchers to take the role being co-supervisor and/or mentor for PhD students at other Member Universities within BUP.



As usual, BUP will pay for accommodation and food during the set programs. Each PhD student, main supervisor and mentor/co-supervisor will also have meetings on regular basis for individual supervisions via video conferencing during the year.

Focus 2020 on research

The year of 2019 saw a lot of activities for students, with five major student events. During 2020, the BUP will focus on research and researchers at our Member Universities. This focus is a request from the Rectors Conference in 2018 and the aim is to strengthen research cooperations. An outcome of this focus is the BUP Symposium 2020, where networks of researchers within each BUP Theme will be established and activities developed during 2020 and forward.

For more visibility for researchers and research groups, we are developing presentations on our web page featuring our nine BUP Themes. This is an opportunity meant to facilitate dissemination of knowledge and to make research conducted by colleagues more visible.

The symposium host Olle Jansson, Chairman of the BUP International Board



Why do You think networks among universities in the Baltic Sea Region are important?

From a Swedish perspective we need to connect more with this region as it is enormously important, and not just to connect to the southern and western part of Europe. It is also important for the universities to connect to other universities in the Baltic Sea Region, to interact with them and to create new knowledge.

What role do You think The Baltic University Programme plays for collaboration between universities in the Baltic Sea Region?

I think it could have lot of importance, in creating those connections between universities in the region. Of course because of the BUP history, but also because it is funded by the Swedish government and the Uppsala University and we have an assignment to coordinate this from Uppsala University. I think that the formal founding of the Programme is important for the stability of the Programme. Of course the Associated Secretariats are important and contribute enormously to the Programme.

What vision do You have for The Baltic University Programme?

When I started as a chairman I realised we needed to concentrate on two things: one is the regeneration of the BUP, the other is to aim efforts towards researchers and students at a higher level.

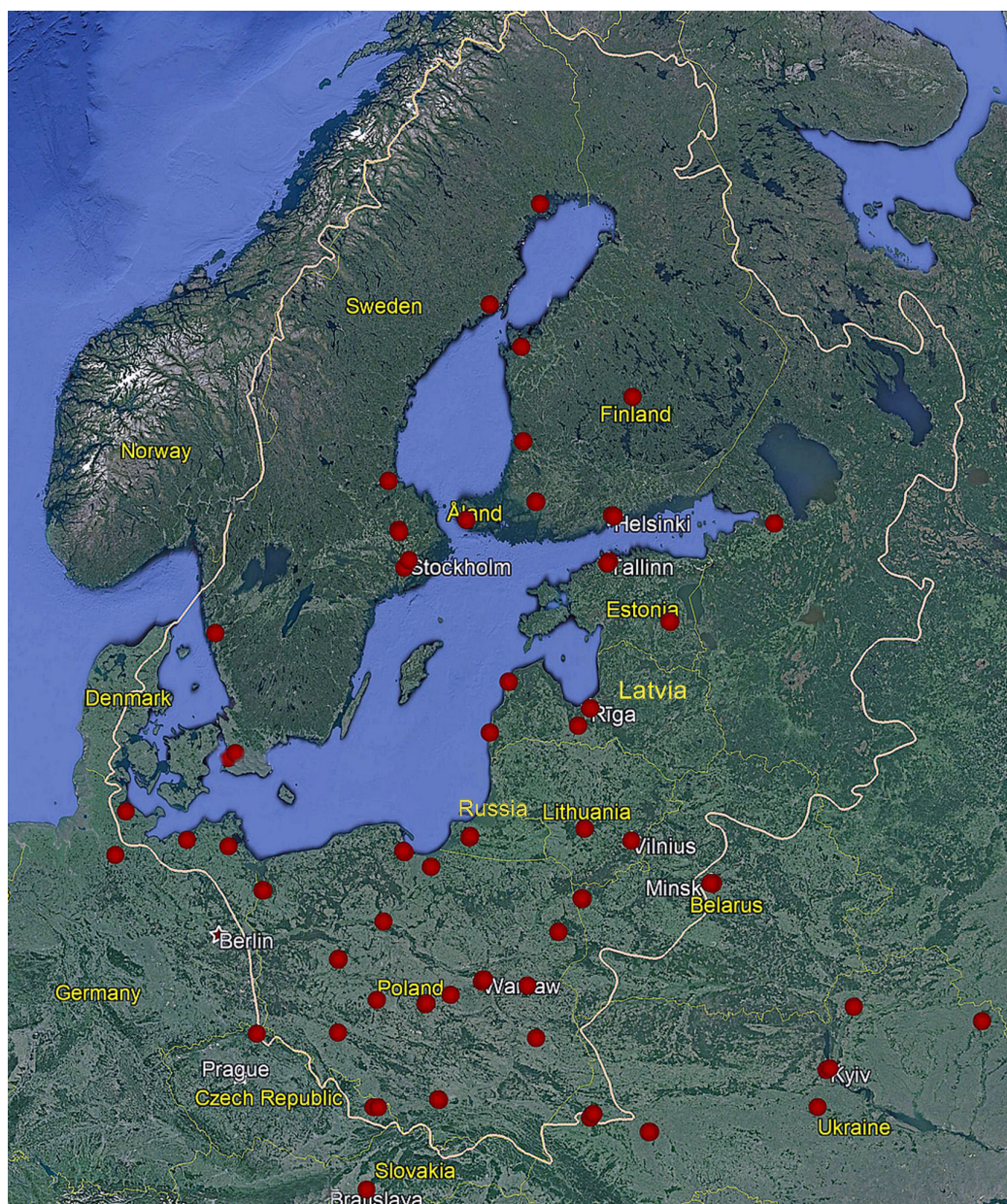


Economic overview 2019

The organization and management of the Baltic University Programme – the Coordinating Secretariat in Uppsala (financed by the Swedish government and Uppsala University), the Associated Secretariat in Łódź (financed by Łódź University of Technology), the Associated Secretariat in Åbo (financed by Åbo Akademi University) and the Associated Secretariat in Hamburg (financed by Hamburg University of Applied Sciences) as well as the 12 National Centres and the 87 Member Universities – all have contributed in different ways to running the BUP activities during 2019.

Besides covering the daily running costs of all secretariats, the funding from the respective universities has been used to finance such undertakings as teachers' conferences, students' summer courses and conferences, PhD Training, research conferences, the SAIL conference etc. Still, to be able to run all the yearly activities we ran, and all the activities we would like to continue doing, as well as new activities to be developed in the future, BUP is dependent on the Membership fee contributions from all of the Member Universities.

BUP map 2019



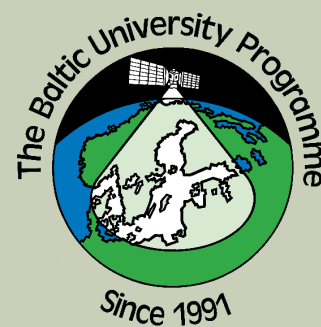


Explaining the BUP logotype

During 2018 a plan was made to update the BUP communication materials, of which the logo is a central part. This was done to better explain our history and future aim. A decision was made 2018 to keep the image with the satellite in the middle of the logo as this is a big part of the BUP legacy: an innovative way of teaching and networking. In the 1990's the BUP set up satellite TV arrangements, which was very novel at the time.

The use of satellite TV allowed for a much broader participation and student involvement. The first satellite TV broadcast was staged in October 1991. It had documentaries from many of the countries in the Baltic Sea Region and with several researcher present in the broadcast. In the following year, several such broadcasts were performed enabling discussions between universities in the network. After a few years, the broadcast were made not only from Sweden and Uppsala but from all countries around the Baltic Sea, from Visby, Åbo/Turku, and St Petersburg, to Gdansk and Berlin, and there were as well space bridges. By the late 1990s, the internet had started to replace Satellite TV. Discussion between student groups were made using this new channel for interaction instead.

This proud history of involving people far apart is something the BUP have chosen to honour, and therefore keep the picture in the middle, showing a satellite connecting and enlightning the people in the Baltic Sea Region.





The Baltic University Programme

**Would you like to know
more about us?**

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